

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



April 24, 2003

POP Letter: 03-02

TO: LCSA PATERNITY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM COORDINATORS  
BIRTHING HOSPITALS AND PUBLIC AGENCIES THAT ADMINISTER THE  
PATERNITY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

SUBJECT: PATERNITY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM VIDEO TAPE

Enclosed is your hospital's or agency's copy of the new Paternity Opportunity Program (POP) video tape. Each video tape is divided into two segments. The first segment contains the revised presentation of the parents video Providing for Your Child. The second segment contains the POP training video Voluntary Paternity Acknowledgment Staff Training Video.

Providing for Your Child is a 2003 revision of the parents' informational video on the rights, responsibilities, and benefits of establishing paternity by the voluntary declaration of paternity process. This video has been revised to include an introduction by Curtis Child, Director of the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS). This video should be shown to new or expectant unmarried parents before they are presented with the CS 909, Declaration of Paternity form.

The second segment, Voluntary Paternity Acknowledgment - Staff Training Video provides an overview and basic orientation of the voluntary paternity process for staff at hospital agencies who must present the voluntary paternity forms to parents. This video is an excellent tool to introduce new staff members to POP.

Enclosed is a more detailed explanation of the content of the two videos.

Hospitals or public agencies may make additional copies of the these videos as needed. However, hospital and public agencies are prohibited from altering or revising the content of the videos.



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If you have any questions about the POP videos, please contact your State DCSS POP analyst listed on the enclosed assignment sheet.

Sincerely,

Francine Woods, Chief  
Customer and Community Services Branch

Enclosures

# **Contents of Paternity Opportunity Program Video**

The Paternity Opportunity Program (POP) tape contains two separate segments: Providing for Your Child and Voluntary Paternity Acknowledgment – Staff Training Video. The second segment follows a few seconds after the end of the credits on the first segment.

## **Segment 1 - Providing for Your Child**

This segment contains a nine minute video for unmarried parents or parents-to-be that is introduced by Curtis Child, Director, California Department of Child Support Services. The video provides information about the process for establishing paternity by completion of a voluntary declaration of paternity form in the hospital at the time of the child's birth. The video presents parents with information about the benefits of establishing paternity at the beginning of a child's life and the rights and responsibilities of parents establishing paternity. Showing the video to parents before they are presented with a declaration of paternity form meets the State and federal requirement to orally provide information of rights and responsibilities prior to parents signing a declaration of paternity form. This video was produced by the California Department of Child Support Services.

## **Segment 2 - Voluntary Paternity Acknowledgment - Staff Training Video**

This segment contains a thirteen minute training and orientation video about the voluntary paternity process. This video is intended to be shown to the staff of hospitals and public agencies who are required by law to provide the voluntary paternity process. The video provides background information regarding the legal requirements of paternity, answers to common questions about the paternity process, and suggested approaches for staff presenting paternity declarations to parents. This video was produced by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement and is endorsed by that agency as a training tool for use by the states. This video contains a welcome message and an expression of appreciation to hospital and agency staff by Curtis Child, Director, California Department of Child Support Services.

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